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CHALLIS

NATIONAL FOREST

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CHALLIS

NATIONAL FOREST

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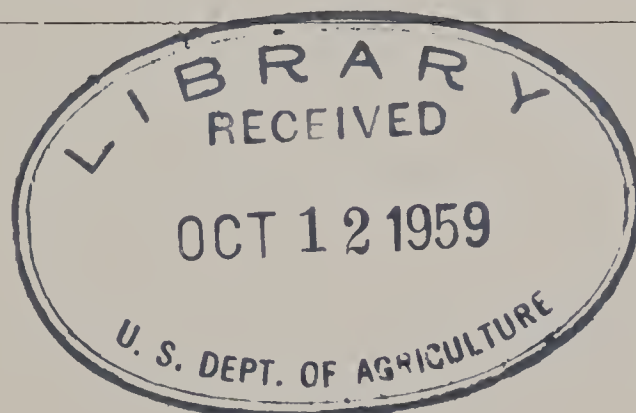
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INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

• OGDEN, UTAH

COVER PHOTO.—Majestic and Stately Mount
Borah of the Lost River range rules over all
Idaho peaks.

F-392830



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON

1941



F-389929

ON THE FAR SHORES OF STANLEY LAKE THE WILDERNESS BEGINS

“The Forest Primeval”

IN THE GEOGRAPHIC CENTER of Idaho, embracing a rugged and unconquered area, lies the Challis, largest unit administered as a national forest.

Comprising 2,468,067 acres, this vast area, because of its formidable physiography, is likely to remain in primitive grandeur for many generations. To the adventurer and explorer, however, it offers unequalled challenges: To scale the highest peaks in Idaho, to penetrate the unfrequented recesses of the “back country,” to spear salmon on their summer run, or to track wild game through the forest or on high crags overlooking meadow or desert valleys.

This mountain wilderness, with its scores of crystal lakes and dashing streams, belongs to all the people of the United States—to use, to enjoy, and to protect. It was created a national forest July 1, 1908, by Executive order of President Theodore Roosevelt. It was named in honor of A. P. Challis, an Englishman who, according to historians, founded the town of Challis in 1876 as a base for furnishing supplies to various interior mining centers. At first it was made up of what are now portions of the Salmon River and Sawtooth National Forests. Recently a large part of the former Lemhi National Forest was placed within its boundaries.

On the Northwest of the Challis lies the Payette National Forest; on the north and east, the Salmon; on the south, the Snake River Desert; and on the west, the Sawtooth Forest. Elevations vary from 3,800 feet, the lowest point on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, to the tip of Mount Borah in the Lost River Range. This stately sentinel, named in honor of the late Senator William E. Borah, rears its head 12,655 feet above sea level to reach the highest point in the State. Water from the forested slopes goes into the Salmon River, whose numerous tributaries, together with Big and Little Lost Rivers, have their source within the area.

Summer weather on the Challis is ideal for outdoor activities. The nights are cool and the days are warm. However, winter brings heavy snowfall and subzero weather; temperatures as low as 50° below zero have been recorded at Stanley and other places. In the semiarid valley regions precipitation is light, particularly during the summer, the months of July, August, and September being especially deficient in moisture.

History in the Rocks

TWENTY MILLION YEARS AGO three-toed horses, camels, and possibly rhinoceri were plentiful in this section of the country, say scientists who have studied geological formations in central Idaho. In contrast to the present rugged mountains and great rock canyons, the country was warm and swampy, with low mountain ranges, and mountain streams pouring into great inland lakes.

Today the country is characterized by even summits and deep narrow canyons carved from rock formations of diverse type and complex structure. Geologists believe that the oldest exposed rocks in the northwest portion are schists, slates, and quartzites laid down in the Algonkian age. Lying unconformably on these rocks in the eastern part are Paleozoic quartzite, slates, and dolomitic limestones.

In the central part of the area and along the eastern margin occur vast accumulations of Miocene lava and tuff which occupy old erosion valleys,

while moranic material covers much of the highest area. During the Miocene period, volcanic activity was rife; vast quantities of lavas and tuffs filled the larger valleys, some of them more than 3,000 feet deep. Incident to the lava eruptions many of the streams were impounded, and lakes, corresponding in shape to former valleys, ramified the mountains.

Ice fields covered the uplands during the Pleistocene epoch and extended down the larger valleys to altitudes of about 7,000 feet. Many of the scenic features of the region—great cirques at heads of canyons around Mount Hyndman and other peaks, beautiful mountain lakes, grassy valleys near the divides, and general

CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST HEAD-
QUARTERS AT CHALLIS, IDAHO,
WHERE THE LATCHSTRING IS AL-
WAYS OUT



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F-389941

CASTLE PEAK—SURROUNDED BY A WILDERNESS OF MOUNTAINS

conspicuous contrasts between rounded contours where glaciers worked and ragged surfaces where they were absent—date from this epoch. Deposits by the glaciers are nowhere particularly extensive, but probably many of the gravel beds adjacent to the mountains comprise material washed from the ice front.

The Mississippian beds have yielded extensive fossil collections of great interest to geologists and naturalists. These fossils correspond with the faunas of the Mississippi Valley.

Riches From Furs and Gold

THE LURE OF RICH PELTS of fur-bearing animals brought the first white men into this wild and rugged region. After spending the winter of 1833 in the Salmon River Valley, Capt. B. L. E. Bonneville and his party moved to the Big Lost River country to trap muskrats. The same spring saw Milton Sublette of the Rocky Mountain Fur Co. setting his traps in competition with Bonneville. Sublette proved to be the better trapper and Bonneville moved on.

Early Idaho history also links the names of Jedediah Smith, Nathaniel Wyeth, Alexander Ross, and John Work with the first activities of white men in this area.

When the “slump” came in fur trading, Indians reigned unmolested until the advent of mining prospectors 30 years later. Following the prospectors came Mormon colonizers sent out from Utah by Brigham Young. For



F-389935

WHEREVER SEEN, WHITE CLOUD PEAKS LOOM WITH GHOSTLY PROMINENCE

years these sturdy pioneers tried to conquer this rough region and turn it into an agricultural area, but drought and grasshoppers drove them out.

The Challis was the site of some of the-earliest mining activities in the State. Capt. John Stanley, in whose honor Stanley and Stanley Basin were named, left with his party from the Warren diggings in 1863 to prospect in the vicinity of Stanley Basin. Gold was found, but the party had so much difficulty getting supplies and keeping peace with the Indians that they abandoned their claims.

Three years later prospectors from Montana ventured up the Salmon River as far as Yankee Fork, but abandoned their quest because of adversities. Then in 1869 prospectors from Lemhi discovered rich placer mines on Loon Creek north of Stanley Basin. In 3 years' time these strikes paid \$500,000.

Digging in the famous Bonanza quartz district commenced in 1875, and like mushrooms the towns of Bonanza, Clayton, Custer, and Bay Horse sprang up and flourished. Equipment was crude, but legend has it that one energetic miner pounded out \$11,500 worth of gold in 30 days with a hand mortar. The town of Custer was named in honor of Gen. George A. Custer who fell in the tragic Sioux Indian battle of Little Big Horn in 1876.

The Montana mine in this district proved to be one of the richest ever opened in Idaho. In the Bonanza days its "yellow dirt" paid more than 1½ million dollars.



F-389913

CUSTER MILL ON YANKEE FORK—SILENT LANDMARK OF YESTERDAY

Stirring tales are told by old-timers about adventurous freighters who plied between Malad and Challis, the main freight artery, furnishing miners with food, clothing, and equipment. Mackay Reservoir at the foot of Mount McCaleb now hides the scars of a 3-day battle between an outfit operated by Freighter George L. Shoup and a band of hostile Bannock Indians. During the fray Jesse McCaleb was killed, and the towering mountain above the scene of battle now bears his name.

For about 30 years after the discovery of placer gold on Loon Creek, mining was active. Now the once thriving boom towns are but ghostly remnants of those glorious days of three-score years ago.

The entire country is heavily mineralized. Fifty-seven mineral species have been recognized by geologists. Mines of the area have yielded tremendous wealth in gold, silver, copper, cobalt, lead, zinc, and tungsten. Production of these minerals in the main development centers on the forest is still high. Placer mining is also carried on extensively in the Salmon River section by operations ranging in importance from the lowly gold pan of the pioneer to modern high-powered motorized dredges.

The same mining laws apply in the national forests as elsewhere. There are no restrictions on prospecting or other mining activities so long as the mining claimants comply with the provisions of the applicable laws. Timber and forage on claims may be used for the development of the claim, but may not be sold or used elsewhere prior to obtaining patent. The Forest Service often cooperates in constructing roads for mining develop-

ments, where such roads serve for purposes of timber development and fire protection, and in other ways.

Green Forests—Clear Water

THE ENTIRE FOREST is valuable as a watershed, and the Forest Service gives first consideration to maintaining the soil and its cover. Upon these two basic resources depend the timber and forage crops that bring wealth to the region.

Prosperity of valley communities adjacent to the forest is largely dependent upon water for irrigation and domestic use—water that has its source in the forest. Without it, hundreds of farms and ranches could not continue to exist and prosper.

Located at the headwaters of the Salmon River, the watersheds of the Challis have a highly beneficial influence on the flow of the lower Snake and Columbia Rivers and affect navigation and water power on these streams.

LIVING STREAMS MEAN FULL RESERVOIRS AND BOUNTIFUL CROPS—THAT IS
WHY WATERSHEDS ARE OF SUCH VITAL IMPORTANCE

F-389899



More than a million and a quarter acres of the forest support good stands of timber. Douglas fir and lodgepole pine are the primary species, but there are also excellent stands of ponderosa pine and Engelmann spruce. The total estimated volume of timber is 6½ billion board feet.

A large portion of the timber is inaccessible. The present demand for timber products is limited to local needs, which take only a very small percentage of the annual growth. The timber has been a boon to miners and farmers who are generally far removed from supply centers. Many thousands of feet of Challis timber are used each year for fuel, mine props, mine and farm buildings, and other local construction.

Timber for commercial purposes, when desired in larger quantities, is sold by the Government to the highest bidder, thus assuring the public the greatest return for its timber. The money from the sale of timber and all other sources is paid into the United States treasury, but 25 percent of the gross receipts is returned to the county in which the forest is located, to be

FUEL WOOD, LUMBER, POLES, AND OTHER WOOD PRODUCTS ARE SUPPLIED EACH YEAR FROM THE CHALLIS FOREST TIMBER STANDS TO THE NUMEROUS NEARBY COMMUNITIES AND RANCHES

F-389914





F-389908

MUTTON AND WOOL ARE PRODUCTS OF THE RANGE—ADDING WEALTH AND
STABILITY TO THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

used for the benefit of schools and the improvement of roads. An additional 10 percent is used within the forest boundaries for improvement of the road and trail system.

Cutting is regulated to provide for new and increased growth and done with the least possible waste, through cutting low stumps and closely utilizing all sound material in the trees. In general, cutting is confined to mature timber which has ceased to grow. If green trees are to be cut, they are carefully selected and marked by a forest officer.

WILD FLOWERS.—During the growing season the Challis is a veritable flower bed. “Besides the lakes, beneath the trees” are millions of various colored blooms. Idaho’s State flower, the syringa, is perhaps the most beautiful. There are also columbine, geranium, and hundreds of others.

Forage From the Ranges

THE HIGH PLATEAUS and mountain valleys provide spring and summer grazing for approximately 116,000 sheep and 20,800 cattle each year, to say nothing of the wildlife. In this section of Idaho, stock raising combined with farming is one of the principal industries and is largely dependent upon the national forest for summer range. The livestock industry depends heavily upon a stable native forage supply.

Stock are grazed on the national forest under carefully prepared range-management plans. The number of stock permitted depends upon grazing

capacity of the ranges, and the period of use is limited to the season during which the forage may be utilized without injury to the soil and plant cover. Under this policy the national-forest range will furnish a perpetual supply of feed for the range livestock industry and help stabilize local employment.

Sheep are grazed in bands of about 1,000 ewes with their lambs or 2,000 ewes without lambs. Each herd has its own allotment, and the herder is required to handle the sheep so that no damage is done. Cattle are likewise cared for by a rider who sees that they are properly supplied with salt and distributed over the allotment.

The forest ranger prepares a management plan for each sheep and cattle allotment and supervises grazing use so as to maintain and improve the range for the benefit of the stockmen and the wildlife that also depends on the forage plants. The holders of grazing permits pay a fee to the Government for the privilege of grazing their stock on the forest. Receipts from grazing on the Challis approximate \$21,000 each year.

THE MARSH CREEK MEADOWS—IDEAL SUMMER RANGE FOR CATTLE HERDS THAT WINTER MOSTLY ON THE DISTANT IRRIGATED RANCHES OF THE SNAKE RIVER VALLEY.

F-354075



Where Deer and Antelope Play

THE CHALLIS is the native home of many wild animals—antelopes, mule deer, mountain goats, mountain sheep, bears, mountain lions, and other species. Mule deer, estimated at 7,200, and antelopes, at 5,500, are the most numerous of all. Antelopes may be seen almost any day along Idaho 27 from Dickey to Challis and along the main highways and side roads of Pahsimeroi and upper Little Lost River valleys. This is the native habitat of the only antelope herds left in the State. Limited hunting for this fleet animal is allowed each year under special license issued by the State Fish and Game Commission.

Deer are not often seen along the main highways, but they are not uncommon along side roads and trails. Other big-game animals range farther back in the mountains, and to see them it is necessary to hike or make a trip by saddle and pack horse into their haunts among the crags and peaks.

The back country—Loon Creek, Warm Springs Creek, Camas Creek, and the Middle Fork of the Salmon River—affords especially good deer hunting in season.

The hundreds of lakes and streams of the Challis furnish good fishing,

AT THE EXTREME HEADWATERS OF WILDHORSE CREEK IS MOUNT HYNDMAN,
FAMOUS FOR ITS SPECTACULAR RUGGEDNESS

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F-400870

MAZAMA OUTING MEMBERS PLAYING HORSESHOES AT THE FOREST CAMP ON
STANLEY LAKE, SAWTOOTH RANGE

which, like deer hunting, is best in the back country. Favorite fishing places on the forest are on the upper Big Lost River, East Fork of the Salmon River, Warm Spring Creek above Robinson Bar, Loon Creek, Rapid River, and the Middle Fork.

The development, use, and protection of the wildlife and fish resources are given careful consideration in planning the other uses of the forest. Forest officers cooperate with the State Fish and Game Commission in the enforcement of game laws and fish planting. Sheepherders, cow punchers, dude wranglers, and resort keepers voluntarily turn out with pack strings to assist the forest rangers transport fish for restocking remote lakes and streams.

The southern part of the forest, on each side of the Big Lost River, is set aside as a game preserve.

Outings—Space, and Solitude

THE CHALLIS, with its 2½ million acres of “elbow room”; its many roads and trails, where traffic is light; hundreds of fish-filled streams and lakes; rugged mountains that beckon climbers; and its generous supply of game offers recreation features that appeal to any taste.

This forest possesses a distinct individuality. It is an enchanting world, apart from the stress and strain of modern civilization. True, the rugged-



IN THE PRIMEVAL SOLITUDES OF THE
WHITE CLOUD RANGE THE BORNE
LAKES TEEM WITH FISH

F-389947

BIG LOST RIVER'S RUSHING WATERS,
LIKE NUMEROUS OTHER CHALLIS
FOREST STREAMS, LURE THOUSANDS
OF SPORTSMEN

F-398466



FROM THE FOREST GIANTS OF THE
PAST, STUMP OF REDWOOD IN THE
MALM GULCH PETRIFIED FOREST

F-389955

THE MILE AND A HALF HIKE FROM
THE SADDLE TO THE TWIN PEAKS
LOOKOUT PROVIDES A LONG-TO-
BE-REMEMBERED THRILL

F-389916



ness of the "back country" will test the skill of the most venturesome, but "to him who in the love of Nature holds communion with her visible forms, she speaks a various language."

Campgrounds with stoves, tables, running water, and sanitation improvements are conveniently located along the highways and side roads. Saddle and pack horses may be obtained locally for trips into remote areas not accessible by automobile. For such trips the services of a competent guide should be engaged.

WHERE TO GO, WHAT TO SEE.—On all sides in this area of unsullied grandeur are things of fascinating interest; however, some of those most alluring are:

SALMON RIVER AREA: The fascinating Salmon River and its headwater tributaries afford a wide choice to those in search of adventure. For those who want a glimpse of today's frontier life there's Stanley Basin, located in the shadows of the Sawtooth crags. For lovers of Nature and her many surprises there's the entire area of unsurpassed beauty—streams, lakes, and mountain peaks. This region is accessible from the north and south over U. S. 93 and through Bear Valley from the west by an improved forest highway.

Many interesting side trips may be made by pack and saddle horses into secluded areas not accessible by automobile. Pack trips of outstanding interest and beauty are to be enjoyed by those who visit White Cloud Peak and Borne Lakes; Boulder Lakes and Castle Peak; Mount Hyndman; Knapp, Mable, Kelley, Elizabeth, and Sawtooth Lakes.

Good catches of trout can be made along the main Salmon and its tributaries and from the many mountain lakes, or salmon can be taken by spear and rod during the run from June to September, and these big fellows provide great sport.

Choice improved campgrounds are located along the main Salmon, Yankee Fork, Mill Creek, Beaver Creek, Lolo Creek, Alturas, Redfish, and Stanley Lakes. Hotel, lodge, and tourist cabin accommodations are also available.

BIG LOST RIVER: This stream which derives its name from the phenomenal way it loses itself on the great Snake River Desert has long been famous for the excellent trout fishing in its headwaters. It is assessible by Idaho 27 and by U. S. 93 from Ketchum and Sun Valley over the Trail Creek Summit.

Antelope Creek is traversed by a good dirt road which leaves Idaho 27 three miles above the town of Moore. A fair automobile road from Antelope Ranger Station leads into Copper Basin and connects with the Mackay-Ketchum road two miles below Wildhorse Ranger Station. Copper Basin, Wildhorse Creek, and North Fork are accessible by good side roads from the Mackay-Ketchum road.



F-398450

THE GIANT LANDMARK, MOUNT M'CALEB, OVERLOOKING THE HISTORIC INDIAN
BATTLEGROUND IN BIG LOST RIVER VALLEY

Improved campgrounds are located at Park Creek, Wildhorse Creek, and Pass Creek where recreationists can relax and enjoy camping among the pines in a beautiful mountain setting.

LITTLE LOST RIVER: Little Lost River offers much to the recreationist who likes roughing it. There are few choice camping sites along this stream, but season after season campers return to this primitive region. This country can be reached by way of Howe and over a fair dirt road from Pahsimeroi Valley; also, through Pass Creek from Big Lost River. Antelope herds are an added attraction and fishing is fair. Connections with U. S. 93 can be made at Ellis.

PAHSIMEROI VALLEY: This picturesque valley, with its long alluvial bars that spread fan-shaped from the mouths of the numerous canyons, contains many reminders of the old frontier. The valley is traversed by a fair unsurfaced road that leaves U.S. 93 20 miles below Challis and connects with Idaho 27 by way of Howe, also by an improved forest road over Double Springs Pass from Dickey on Big Lost River.

Pahsimeroi Valley is the center of the native range of one of the largest remaining herds of antelope in Idaho. These sleek, light-footed animals may be seen any day streaking across the open desert basins or scampering up the valley slopes. Fishing is fair in the main Pahsimeroi River, Big Creek, and Morgan Creek. Duck shooting is a popular sport in season. Choice camping sites are limited, but many recreationists make use of partially improved campgrounds located on Big Creek and Morse Creek.

MIDDLE FORK OF SALMON RIVER: This remote mountainous empire, locally known as the "back country," will tax the skill of the boldest adventurer. The Idaho Primitive Area, a large portion of which is located on the Middle Fork and fringes the northwest part of the Challis, is one of the least explored and developed areas of its size in continental United States. Within the primitive area of about 1¼ million acres no automobile roads exist. The only developments are pack trails, a few airplane landing fields, and lookout stations necessary to protect the area from forest fires. Here opportunity is afforded for primitive camping, fishing, nature study, and outdoor life where nature rules unmodified. Streams, lakes, peaks, trees, and flowers combine to form a pattern of natural beauty.

The area can be reached by pack trails from the end of automobile roads at Loon Creek, Seafoam, and Myers Cove. Camp sites are located at all these places. Good fishing and deer hunting may be enjoyed in season. Arrangements should be made in advance for pack and saddle horses, and an experienced guide should be employed.

Airplane landing fields are located along the Middle Fork at Hood's Ranch; and Mahoney, Indian, and Bernard Creeks.

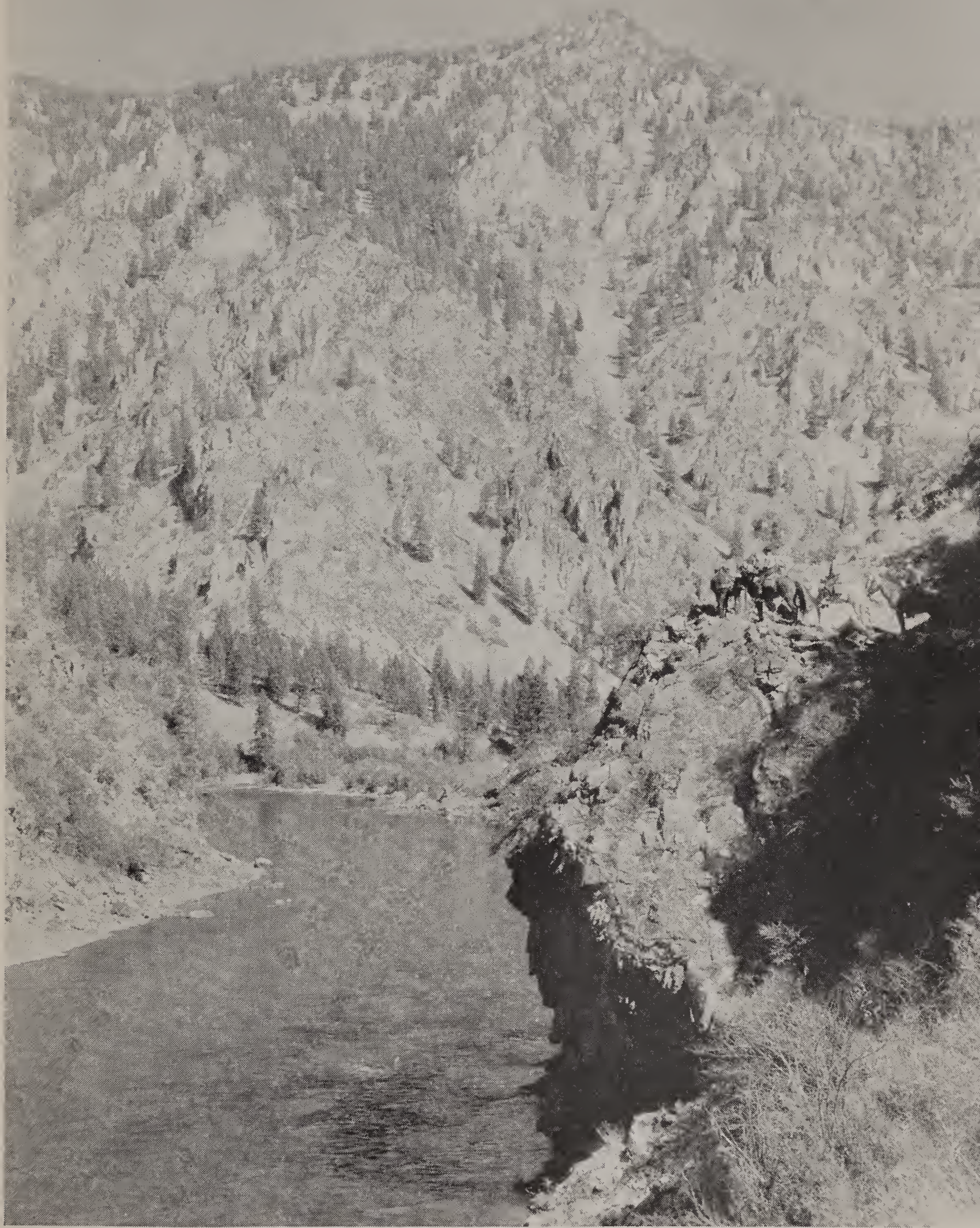
SAWTOOTH WILDERNESS AREA: Bordering on the southwest portion of the Challis lies the Sawtooth Wilderness Area, a wild, undeveloped empire of more than 200,000 acres. This wilderness extends from Stanley Lake south almost to Alturas Lake Creek. It is a section of unspoiled beauty resplendent with towering peaks, placid lakes, and white-water streams. Like the larger Idaho Primitive Area on the north, this one has been set aside to preserve and maintain in an unspoiled condition a vast wilderness of mountains and spectacular peaks, among the most scenic in Idaho.

RECOMMENDED AUTO TRIPS.—Auto trips that afford the visitor glimpses of rare scenery in the great untamed regions of the Challis National Forest may be chosen from the following:

Beginning at Chilly in the Thousand Springs Valley (Idaho 27), go southwest over Trail Creek summit to Ketchum. Before leaving Chilly, mountain climbers may be lured by the snowcapped peaks at Mount Borah and Leatherman, which dominate the rugged Lost River Range. Mount Borah, 12,655 feet, is the highest point in Idaho.

Beginning at Darlington on Idaho 27 go up Antelope Creek, over Antelope Pass to Big Lost River and thence to Chilly. Climb from Mackay over Pass Creek Pass to the headwaters of Little Lost River; thence north through Goldberg and Patterson to U S 93 at Ellis and return by way of Challis.

From Challis a transmountain trip can be made over the McKay summit, Toll Gate, Yankee Fork. the ghost towns of Custer and Bonanza to Sunbeam Dam on U S 93.



F-263437

WILDERNESS RIDERS PAUSE ON THE BLUFF ABOVE THE CLEAR WATERS OF THE
MIDDLE FORK OF THE SALMON RIVER

Another side trip of considerable appeal is the one to Boyles Ranch on Loon Creek which begins on the Jordan Creek road near Bonanza. While some heavy grades are encountered on this route and especially careful driving is necessary, hundreds of people make the trip each year.

The trip to the Fly Creek Point lookout and Sleeping Deer Mountain from Challis follows for almost its entire route elevated ridges, from which the vast panorama of the wilderness country can be observed. Some steep grades must be climbed on this mountain road which was built primarily for fire protection.

From Cape Horn on the Stanley Basin-Cascade road, two short trips to Feltham Lookout and the Seafoam Ranger Station are made frequently; and Seafoam is one of the main jumping off places for fishing trips to the Middle Fork.

PETRIFIED FOREST OF MALM GULCH.—Of unusual interest is the petrified forest up Malm Gulch just off the forest and east of U. S. 93 between Clayton and Challis. This phenomenon of nature tells a silent story of a time in the geological development of this area when giant redwoods, like the California Sequoias of today, reared above the forest floor. Then climate changed and a new epoch came in which these trees were covered with water and changed to stone while submerged. The structure of the wood was retained but the wood cells were replaced by silica.

LOOKOUTS ON AUTO ROADS.—Four lookouts on the Challis may be reached by automobile roads: Twin Peaks by going northwest from Challis on a forest road toward Sleeping Deer Mountain. The lookout is about 1½ miles from the road. Fly Creek Point by continuing beyond Twin Peaks on the same road. Sleeping Deer Mountain by continuing beyond Fly Point. The lookout is reached after a short hike from the road. Feltham Point on the west central part of the forest, by traveling over a mountain road that leads northeasterly from Cape Horn.

IMPROVED FOREST CAMPGROUNDS.—BLIND CREEK: 12 miles northeast of Stanley on U S 93 and Yankee Fork Road; piped water supply; season May to October; fishing, hunting, pack trails.

BEAVER CREEK: 20 miles northwest of Stanley on Stanley-Cape Horn forest road, thence north approximately 3 miles beyond Cape Horn Hot Springs on Beaver Creek Road; well water; season May to October; fishing and hunting.

CUSTER: 12 miles northeast of Stanley on U S 93, thence approximately 12 miles up Yankee Fork—1 mile above old Custer Mill; pressure water system; season May to October; salmon fishing and hunting.

LOLO CREEK: On Stanley-Cape Horn forest road; 20 miles northwest of Stanley, thence 2 miles north to Lolo Creek; pressure water system; season May to October; fishing and hunting.



F-398455

FRAMED IN THE RUGGEDNESS OF THE LOST RIVER RANGE, THE MOUNTAIN VIEW RANGER STATION NESTLES IN THE UPPER VALLEY OF PASS CREEK

MILL CREEK: 20 miles west of Challis on Challis-Custer forest road; pressure water system; season May to October; fishing and hunting.

O'BRIAN: 12 miles northeast of Stanley on U S 93, thence across Salmon River 1 mile toward Robinson Bar; pressure water system; season May to October; fishing and hunting.

STANLEY LAKE: 8 miles west of Stanley; improved forest road; pressure water system; season May to October; fishing and hunting.

PARK CREEK: 14 miles northeast of Ketchum on Ketchum-Mackay forest road, a short distance over Trail Creek Summit on the Lost River side; pressure water system; season May to October; fishing and hunting.

WILDHORSE: 23 miles northeast of Ketchum on Ketchum-Mackay forest road, thence 9 miles southwest on Wildhorse Creek road; pressure water system; season May to October.

BEAR CREEK: 9 miles northeast of Mackay on Pass Creek forest road; well water; season May to October; fishing and hunting.

Fighting the Red Enemy—Fire

FIRE TO THE FORESTER is Enemy Number One. It will destroy in a few minutes Nature's growth of a century. Although the greatest number of



F-389936

HUGE AMPHITHEATRES AND ROCK-BOUND GLACIAL CIRQUES GREET THE MOUNTAINEER AT EVERY TURN IN THE WHITE CLOUD PEAKS COUNTRY

fires on the Challis are caused by lightning, far too many are caused by human carelessness—mostly by unextinguished camp fires, cigarettes, and matches.

Successful fire suppression demands quick detection and rapid attack. The location and construction of lookout stations, telephone lines, roads, trails, and airplane landing fields; the transportation, feeding, and care of fire fighters and the technique of fire-fighting require determined study, preparation, and performance. The ranger pits his skill and the endurance of his men against the action of the fire. No quarter is given in the fight.

A fire caused through carelessness is a violation of State and Federal laws and is a crime committed against Nature and the wildlife of the forest. The Forest Service solicits the cooperation of everyone in keeping man-made fires out of the woods.

During summer months the fire hazard on the Challis is high and eternal caution is the watchword. No one wants to see a repetition of the disastrous Loon Creek fire of 1931 which burned over 20,000 acres and killed every living thing caught in the inferno.

Here's how you can help protect the forest from the Red Demon:

1. Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.
2. Bury pipe ashes and cigarette stubs in mineral soil.
3. Build only small camp fires, in places free of inflammable material. Never leave them until the last spark is out.
4. Put out unattended fires if you can. If you can't put them out, call the nearest forest officer or the State Fire Warden.

Problems of Administration

MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION of the resources of the wild, mountainous land embraced in the Challis present many complex problems peculiar to the enterprise. Roads, trails, telephone lines, radio networks, airplane landing fields, lookout towers, and many other improvements must be constructed and maintained to make these resources available for public use and to protect them from fire.

In the management of this vast area abroad conception of natural resource management and a comprehensive policy for carrying it out are necessary. It has always been the aim of forest officers to make the people's forests perform the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run. This policy dominates the plans and activities of forest officers in their management of the soil, trees, forage, water, and wildlife of the forest, as well as intangible values which directly affect the lives of local inhabitants, people of the State, and the citizens of the Nation.

For administrative and management purposes the Challis is divided into 8 ranger districts with each ranger in charge of more than a quarter of a

FIRE—THE NUMBER ONE ENEMY AT WORK DESTROYING IN A FEW MINUTES
THE GROWTH OF A CENTURY

F-401402



million acres. Rangers are located at Challis, Clayton, Stanley, Seafoam, Loon Creek, Mackay, May, and Wildhorse.

The supervisor's office is at Challis. Call on the rangers or at the supervisor's office for detailed information. The Challis force is interested in adding to the pleasure of visitors. The latch string is always out.

Challis National Forest

A PUBLIC HERITAGE

AREA: 2,468,067 acres of mountain wilderness.

LOCATION: South central Idaho.

INCLUDES: The headwaters of the Big and Little Lost, the Pahsimeroi, the Middle Fork, and the main Salmon Rivers.

ELEVATION: Ranges from 3,800 feet on the Middle Fork of the Salmon to 12,655 feet at the top of Mount Borah, the highest point in Idaho.

ITS RICH RESOURCES

WATERSHEDS: Four very valuable drainages.

TIMBER: Six and one-half billion feet.

WILDLIFE: Big game, fish, birds, and many fur-bearing species.

RANGE FORAGE: 1,650,000 acres.

MINERALS: Gold, silver, cobalt, copper, lead, tungsten, and zinc of immense value.

RECREATION: Mountain scenery of unsurpassed beauty, outstanding opportunities for camping, pack trips into remote country, mountain climbing, and nature study.

THE FOREST YIELDS HEALTH—
WEALTH—SECURITY



EVERYBODY LOSES WHEN TIMBER BURNS
BE SURE YOUR FIRE IS OUT—DEAD OUT



U S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
EARL H. CLAPP, ACTING CHIEF
T. W. MORRIS, CHIEF, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST

IDAHO
BOISE MERIDIAN

1940
SCALE
0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

- LEGEND
- National Forest Boundary
 - Adjacent National Forest Boundary
 - Main Motor Highways
 - Secondary Roads
 - U S or State Highway Numbers
 - Main Trails
 - Railroads
 - Supervisors Headquarters
 - Primitive Area
 - Game Preserve
 - District Ranger Station
 - Guard or Ranger Station
 - Permanent Lookout Tower
 - House, Cabin or other Building
 - Picnic or Camp Ground
 - Mine
 - Sawmill
 - Air Port
 - Forest Service Landing Field
 - Special Interest Area

REPORT ALL FIRES HERE

CRATERS OF THE MOON
NATIONAL MONUMENT

